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For Immediate Release

Utah National Guard Expresses Condolences at Passing of Former Adjutant General Maj. Gen. John L. Matthews

DRAPER, Utah – The Utah National Guard publicly expresses its condolences to Janice Matthews and her family at the passing of her husband John L. Matthews, who served as adjutant general of the Utah Guard from 1982 to 1994.

“We received the news with sadness that Maj. Gen. Matthews had passed away. He was not only a great state figure, but also a national figure,” said Maj. Gen. Jeff Burton, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard. “He was a great leader, friend, and mentor to many. There are a lot of wet eyes today because of his loss.”

“General Matthews was a gentleman from head to toe, setting a tone of professionalism in our organization,” Burton continued. “His style was one of mentorship, a charismatic leader who made you want to do the best you could for the organization. He led in a kind way; it was leadership by inspiration and not by fear. He connected with all people at all levels.”

The Utah National Guard will provide full military honors for Maj. Gen. Matthews at his burial, details of which are yet to be announced.